

roles, tasks and obligations in such away that it can expeditiously detect and report anomalies variances and transgressions directly and independently without human intervention if necessary.

a) A general purpose computer with a computer memory encoded with executable instructions representing a computer program,

b) at least one data storing means accessible by said computer program,

c) A Participants data set stored in said data storage means, said Participants data set comprised of a plurality of Participants capsules from a plurality of sources, each said Participants capsule comprised of the following elements regarding participants in the investment process:

- i) Type – trustee, overseer, supervisor, fund/asset manager, broker, auditor, actuary, advisor, consultant, principal officer
- ii) Unique personal identifier - ID number
- iii) Brokerage license
- iv) Telephone number - land
- v) Telephone number - mobile
- vi) Facsimile number
- vii) Email address
- viii) Internet universal resource locator (URL)
- ix) Street address
- x) Town
- xi) Postal code
- xii) Country
- xiii) Time zone
- xiv) Principal bourse
- xv) Secondary bourse

d) A Corporate Events data set stored in said data storage means, said Corporate Events data set comprised of a plurality of Corporate Events capsules from a plurality of sources, each said Corporate Events capsule comprised of:

- i) time, date and type of cautionary warnings as issued by a variety of sources that pertain to the market conditions and impact upon decisions to buy or sell individual or sectoral financial instruments
- ii) Time, date and type of proxy voting activities
- iii) Time, date and type of dividends announcements and issuance.

e). A Mandate data set stored in said data storage means, said mandate data set comprised of a plurality of mandate capsules from a plurality of sources, each said mandate capsule comprised of:

- i) The rules for acquisition and handling of each type of investment item. These shall include rules derived from specific investment mandates, fund actuaries, consultants, investment managers, investment strategy policies, benchmarking standards and asset mix policy documents
- ii) The algorithms for processing data extracted from the workflow of the entity or trader/stockbroker entrusted with carrying out said mandate.

f). A workflow data set stored in said data storage means, said workflow data set comprised of a plurality of workflow capsules from a plurality of sources, each said workflow capsule comprised

of:

- i) The steps in the workflow of the broker/trader/investment entity responsible for executing the investment mandates of a specific client.
- ii) The date and time of execution of individual or multiple trading activities by a particular broker/trader/investment entity. Such activities shall include but not be limited to buying, selling, holding stock, bonds or any other financial instruments, changing to alternate sources of stocks and bonds or any other financial instruments.

g). A comparison database stored in said data storage means, said comparison database comprised of a plurality of comparison data from a plurality of sources, each said comparison data elements comprised of the calculated delta or variance between the mandate data capsule for each specific investment activity and the actual workflow data acquired by the application,

h). A report rules data set stored in said data storage means, said report rules data set comprised of a plurality of report capsules from a plurality of sources, each said report capsule comprised of a one- dimensional, two-dimensional or multidimensional representation of the variances calculated by the comparison database.

i). A Findings and Comments data set stored in said data storage means, said recommendation data set comprised of a plurality of Findings and Comments capsules, each said Findings and Comments capsule:

- i) wherein a summary of the original Findings and Comments is a conclusion in the form of a phrase, grade, code or symbol that suggests a sentiment or a degree of positive, negative, or neutral action toward the item, and

- ii) a hierarchy of sources of the Findings and Comments about the item are presented with references to the mandate/s that apply (extracted from the mandate database), the workflow items that are involved (extracted from workflow database), where said hierarchy of sources of the original Findings and Comments about the item is comprised of the source of the heuristics and rationale associated with the recommendation about the item.

The Findings and Comments will take the form of a bottom line word or phrase that, with respect to an element such as a stock and conveys various attributes such as advice, praise, caution, warning, or commendation that is either stated or implied by the results of the variance and other analyses performed by the comparison database and displayed as a function of the results rules database.

2. A computer system that facilitates investigation into the efficiency and cost effectiveness of investing behavior by tracking the actions of entities and individuals involved in the buying, selling and management of financial instruments actions at every key step in the process of portfolio management.

3. A system that permits direct dissection and determination of the direct and indirect costs of executing investment ideas. These costs are tracked by direct calculation of differences in expected versus achieved pricing for financial instruments.

4. A process that is encapsulated within a computer program that enables sequential documentation and tracking of the times and events in the process whereby investments ideas are acted upon and transformed into implemented actions for a designated portfolio.
5. A process that facilitates the oversight of the investment management process in a way that empowers an overseer/s to fulfill their fiduciary responsibilities.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

The invention utilizes a computer apparatus to automatically track and monitor the activities of role players in the investment process analyzing and detecting anomalies, variances and transgressions. The system automatically generates immediate E-mail or SMS alerts in certain instances or generates displays or reports quantifying costs or benefits of transactions, at predetermined intervals. These reports will contain relative performance measurement of asset management service providers, brokers or other investment entities with respect to compliance with regulations, a set of behavioral mandates and any other benchmark or parameter as requested by the client.

DRAWINGS AND DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Brief Description of Drawings

The Invention can be summarized in five figures (FIG. 1, FIG. 2, FIG. 3, FIG 4, Fig 5), which explain the schematic working of the system.

FIG. 1 is a schematic flowchart depicting the process by which the five core databases interact to store, process and share information captured within the computer apparatus.

FIG. 2 is a schematic flowchart depicting the process by which the information subsets are optionally input and stored in the computer apparatus.

FIG. 3 shows a sample two-dimensional graph report

FIG. 4 shows the interrelationships between the Workflow database and the Participants database

FIG. 5 is a schematic overview of how the system is accessible to individual users via an Intranet, Internet, World Wide Web, Local area network, and Wide area network.

FIG. 6 is a schematic overview of how the different investment service providers inter-relate in the investment process.

Detailed Description of Drawings and Working of Invention

Figure 1 shows how the six core databases interact with one another.

Data regarding Participants is manually or electronically entered into the Participants database.

Data regarding Corporate Events is manually or electronically entered into the Corporate Events database.

Data regarding fund Mandates is manually or electronically entered into the Mandates database.

Data regarding Workflow is manually or electronically entered into the Workflow database.

The algorithms contained in the Comparison database then act upon the data in the Participants, Corporate Events, Mandates and Workflow databases to yield a set of data that can be acted upon by the Report rules database. The report rules database then creates a predefined or a chosen-on-the-fly set of reports that may be in the form of tables, two or three dimensional graphs or multidimensional situational awareness environments.

These reports are accompanied by a set of summary findings and comments that are elicited from the Findings and Comments database based upon the specific context of the results reported.

Figure 2 shows the workflow process that the application will track in real time or ex post facto.

This workflow process tracks the event - buy, sell, hold (did not sell financial instruments), no action (did not purchase financial instruments) and its associated date and time. These events and times are compared by the Comparison database with market events and pricing moves with respect that particular financial instrument.

Figure 3 shows a sample two dimensional graph report illustrating the comparisons between prices paid by two brokers for a specified financial instrument against the highest and lowest market prices on the trading days of that instrument as a function of time and volumes traded.

One can see in this example that there is a variance between the prices that both brokers paid and the market price for the particular financial instrument over the measured time period. Furthermore it can be seen that broker x consistently traded at the upper end of the market price while broker y traded at the lower end of the price range, suggesting that further investigation into this broker's behavior and motivations is warranted.

Figure 4 shows the critical interrelationships between the various classes of participants.

Here we see the how the application tracks the workflow of the principal (buyers and sellers of financial instruments) participants entrusted with carrying out the instructions of fund managers at the behest of the Trustees or Overseers of a particular fund. Participant buyers and sellers of financial instruments are tracked against the time, volume and price of financial instruments bought or sold. Their trading activities, or lack thereof are then compared directly with buy, sell and price actions in the entire marketplace or by other principal participants in the same firm, same sector or same fund class, among others.

Figure 5 shows how data will be drawn into and extracted from the application via the internet, World Wide Web, Local area network, and Wide area network in a highly secure, secure socket layer encrypted manner

Figure 6 shows a schematic overview of how the different role players or investment service providers interrelate in the investment process. It also describes the flow of information through a typical purchase, buy or hold decision and the feedback loop to the board of trustees.

Conclusion, Ramifications, and Scope

The invention allows regulators , overseers , trustees and investors to monitor all transactions executed in the investment process .The system is programmable to allow for tailor made parameters and tolerances depending on the clients needs .The invention also is also capable of alerting the client via E-mail or SMS of anomalies , variances or transgressions allowing for timeous response.

The invention also afford the client the opportunity to objectively compare the actions of fund managers, brokers and other investment entities (agents) with mandates specified by the client in a way that affords unprecedented insight into the true costs of the transactions to the client. In addition, the reports will show the recommendations about which agents have performed the best according to multiple performance ratings. In short, a tremendous amount of research and analysis legwork across multiple sources is completed for the client and presented in an easy-to-read, highly understandable format that is conducive to incisive action to optimize returns on investment.

While the above description contains much specificity, these should not be construed as limitations on the scope of the invention, but rather as an exemplification of one preferred embodiment. For example, there are several specific areas where the invention could be changed applied so as to be even more useful to a user by a practitioner skilled in the art and this invention incorporates the same within its scope and domain.